

# McCarthy Fights McCone as CIA Head

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Washington, Jan. 17 — Sen. McCarthy (D-Minn.) plans to challenge President Kennedy's appointment of John A. McCone as director of the Central Intelligence Agency on the grounds that he is temperamentally unfit.

McCarthy will carry his battle against confirmation to the hearing room of the Senate Armed Services Committee Thursday, when McCone will appear to testify. He will fight the appointment on the Senate floor when it comes up, he has told associates.

McCarthy will argue that McCone does not have the

temperament to head the CIA because he is intolerant of dissent. He will cite McCone's attempt to fire professors who refused to sign anti-Communist oaths while he was a trustee of the University of California.

A chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission in the Eisenhower Administration, McCone, a Republican, has been serving under an interim appointment as CIA chief since the retirement last November of Allen Dulles.

The choice of a CIA director must be studied with great care, since he is not accountable to Congress and since much of his activity is conducted in secret, McCarthy maintains. He is the author of a bill to put

CIA under the permanent scrutiny of a Congressional committee.

The CIA director must be a man of calm judgment, able to assess intelligence data without prejudice, McCarthy says. He contends that McCone lacks these qualities.

McCarthy has been trying for several days to enlist the support of other liberal Senators but, so far, none has joined his attacks. It is understood that several, however, may stand with him in voting against McCone's confirmation.

Last April's Cuban fiasco demonstrates, McCarthy believes, the danger of letting any government agency exercise too much power in secret. If Congress cannot watch over the agency, he argues, it must at least make sure of the qualities

of the director, which is within its power.

The Armed Services Committee, under the chairmanship of Sen. Russell (D-Ga.), is expected to raise no objection to the appointment. A spokesman from Russell's office said he and McCone have already established a close working relationship.

McCarthy will be surprised, in practical terms, to wage a fight such as Sen. Proxmire (D-Wis.) waged last year against the confirmation of Lawrence H. Sanders to the Federal Power Commission.

Proxmire's fight resulted in about a dozen votes against his appointment. Proxmire felt he had succeeded, however, in bringing what was otherwise a lost issue to the attention of the country.